

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
EASTERN DIVISION**

**Jalila Stoudemire,**

**Plaintiff,**

**v.**

**Cleveland.com, et al.,**

**Defendants.**

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**CASE NO. 1:17 CV 2435**

**JUDGE DONALD C. NUGENT**

**MEMORANDUM OF OPINION**  
**AND ORDER**

*Pro se* Plaintiff Jalilia Soudemire, a federal prisoner, has filed this *in forma pauperis* civil action against four defendants: Cleveland.com; Adam Ferrise; Virginia Wang; and Chris Quinn. (Doc. No. 1.) She seeks damages for defamation.

Federal courts, however, are courts of limited jurisdiction and must dismiss any case in which they determine federal subject-matter jurisdiction is lacking. *See Nagalingam v. Wilson, Sowards, Bowling & Costanzo*, 8 F. App'x 486, 487, 2001 WL 493392 (6th Cir. May 1, 2001). The party who seeks to invoke a federal court's jurisdiction bears the burden of establishing the court's authority to hear the case. *Kokkonen v. Guardian Life Ins. Co. of Am.*, 511 U.S. 375, 377 (1994). "If the court determines at any time that it lacks subject-matter jurisdiction, [it] must dismiss the action." Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(h)(3).

The Plaintiff has not demonstrated a basis for this Court to exercise jurisdiction over her state-law defamation claims. Although she contends federal subject-matter jurisdiction exists on the basis of diversity of citizenship under 28 U.S.C. §1332, she has failed to plead the citizenship

of any of the parties in the case. (*See* Doc. No. 1 at 2-3.)

Accordingly, this action is dismissed for lack of federal subject-matter jurisdiction. The Court further certifies that an appeal from this decision could not be taken in good faith. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(3).

IT IS SO ORDERED.

/s/Donald C. Nugent  
DONALD C. NUGENT  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Dated: \_\_January 16, 2018\_\_